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Title: Regarding inadequate medical facilities in tribal areas of the country.

SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA (ARAKU): Thank you, Madam Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to raise the issue of inadequate health facilities in rural areas. Rural public health system even today is facing a lot of challenges. We are not able to attract doctors to rural and tribal areas and retain them there. Seventy per cent of Indian population is living in villages whereas only 20 per cent of Indian hospital beds are located in rural areas even today. There is a dearth of doctors and health infrastructure in those areas. Where there is a little bit of infrastructure in place, there are no technicians to handle the machines as a result of which those machines are getting rusted. Hundreds of people in rural and tribal areas are dying every year even today without proper diagnosis of their ailments. In view of this, I would like to request the hon. Minister to promote telemedicine and e-medicine in rural areas whereby we can actually promote medical facilities through NHRM and also provide necessary health amenities to the people in rural areas. The Government has declared health as one of the Sustainable Development Goals. In order to achieve this goal, I would request the hon. Minister to provide adequate health facilities through e-medicine in the rural areas. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER

Dr. Manoj Rajoria,

Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra,

Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati Kothapalli Geetha.